

A Knight's Day Off



This story is set a few weeks before Magical Girl Raising Project

Online messaging boards often have group meetups.

Offline meetups.

It's common for large communities to gather around and meet in real life, usually in a big city or so. Almost every major messaging board, forum, or imageboard would host these kinds of meetings, with a large enough community.

Online forums are the only places where Souta Kishibe can truly let out his feelings for Magical Girls.

He chatted every day on a forum known as *Magi-Chan*.

It was a specialized forum for Magical Girl discussions. Anime, Manga, Light Novels, you name it, it has it all.

Magi-Chan would often host offline meetups, but Souta would be unable to join in, for fear of being a boy.

Actually, even if he did get over that and join up, he *still* wouldn't be able to join in the offline group meetings.

This is due to one thing.

In Magi-Chan, Souta's online persona, *MahouShoujoNaKo*, was a female.

He already set that persona a long time ago, and he can't just show up and suddenly be a guy in real life.

It's too bad, too.

Offline meetups often included gift trading. One time, there was a chance to receive a specialized autograph of a limited edition *Cutie Healer* DVD.

Another time, there was a special Console Game for *Star Queen* that was being gifted away.

Then, there was the authentic *Hiyoko-Chan* merchandise that was sold years ago.

Souta wanted to have them, or at least see them. Unfortunately, due to circumstances, he was never able to join these online chats.

A boy his age was often ridiculed and insulted for liking Magical Girls.

There were lots of boys who liked Anime or Manga, but liking Magical Girl shows? They'd call him weird or perverted.

Especially Magical Girl shows whose designs included any fanservice-like outfits. Souta knew what kind of trouble he'd get if anyone even caught him talking about it.

He joined the soccer team, because he also loved soccer, but his teammates probably would dislike him if they found out his hobby.

Six months ago, Souta had become a Magical Girl.

He had been playing a popular social game called *Magical Girl Raising Project*, and then he received a special message from the mascot, Fav.

That's when he was transformed into his avatar, La Pucelle.

"M-Magical Girl? A real Magical Girl?"

"That's right, Pon!"

"But I'm a guy!"

"Doesn't matter, Pon! There are male Magical Girls, too, Pon!"

"W-Wait... really!?"

"They're quite rare, but they do exist, Pon!"

"They're rare... Huh, makes sense, I guess."

"Oh, don't get me wrong, there's *definitely* demand for them, Pon! They're just rare is all."

"But I can't be a Magical Girl, can I...?"

"Sure you can! Just look in the mirror, Pon!"

La Pucelle saw himself, and staring back at him, was a Dragon Knight. The character that he made for the game.

La Pucelle's face went red with embarrassment.

It had only been six months, and his training with fellow Magical Girl Sister Nana had been going well.

He had gotten used to his lifestyle. Saving people, being careful not to get caught.

In a way, it was like *Baby Crown*, the Phantom Thief Magical Girl. She always tried to not get caught no matter what.

La Pucelle wasn't a thief, though, he was a Magical Girl of justice!

Helping people, saving lives, and fighting evil, too!

He'd still go back to that forum, of course. Only then did he realize something...

...He could actually join in the offline meetings.

It was all so simple! If Souta disguised himself as La Pucelle, people wouldn't even bat an eyelash.

He was a 'she', and it fit the gender that he set on the website, too.

There was only one problem.

How is he going to hide his tail... and his horns...?

Hm...

He can't ask Sister Nana for help. That would be strange. It's not like he can borrow her veil. What would even be the reason?

A long enough skirt could probably hide his tail... probably.

He *could* just say he's cosplaying as a Magical Girl, but his horns and tails actually are real, and they look realistic too. If anyone wants to check them, he can't exactly fake them.

He had decided the best course of action.

He took out all the money he ever saved, every coin, every Yen, everything. He took it out, and he went shopping.

Souta felt a bit embarrassed shopping at the women's section, but he needed to do this. He had to do this.

All this money was supposed to go towards some soccer equipment.

Soccer... or Magical Girls...?

Souta chose Magical Girls.

He still wanted to go to Europe and play in the big leagues as a professional soccer player, but he was already a professional Magical Girl, so...

After buying a large bag of dresses, hats, and skirts, Souta went back home and tried them on as La Pucelle.

Once he was *sure* that he looked normal, he began his plan.

He went to the online forums and searched for the topic.

'Meetup next Sunday!'

Souta logged in

MahouShoujoNaKo: Mind if I sign up?

Canossa: Ah, NaKo. We've never seen you join up with us, before!

MahouShoujoNaKo: Yeah... It'll be my first time. Kind of nervous

Canossa: Don't be, everyone's pretty nice

Genopsycho: Oooh! NaKo's coming along, too?

MahouShoujoNaKo: Oh, hey Genopsycho. Nice seeing you. Yeah, I'll be participating

Genopsycho: AWESOME! Can't wait! See you around, NaKo!

Souta can't wait as well. He's going to meet all his online friends at last. He's going to be able to talk about Magical Girls in real life once again.

He slept well that night, ready for what awaits him the following week.

On that Sunday, Souta grabbed his dress and placed it in a bag. He ran for the train station, intent on changing once he got to the location.

He can't bear to have his parents see him changing inside the house.

When he got to the station, he began to think...

...How am I supposed to change into these, again?

He can't exactly go into a men's room, change into them, and come out looking like La Pucelle.

...

...

...

No choice.

As soon as he took the train to Tokyo, he went straight to the nearest public restroom. He made sure no one was watching, and he changed to La Pucelle.

Immediately, he switched to the dress.

A crochet hat covered his horns, while a long skirt covered his tail. His silver hair can be explained easily, but other than that, he looked just like a normal girl.

Great. First part done, now to get to the meeting.

The meeting was being held at a restaurant of sorts, in order for the forum members to be able to talk and eat at the same time.

Tokyo was a large place, different from N-City, so La Pucelle had to find his way around.

It was hard to walk around in these, especially with his tail not free to move around as much, but he eventually got used to it.

When he finally found the place, he was excited.

He entered, and saw a group of people, men and women, chatting it up with each other.

La Pucelle immediately took the nearest empty seat.

“Uh... Hi!” he said, trying to break the ice.

“Oh, hey there! Never seen you around,” said a man drinking some beer.

“I’m NaKo!”

“MahouShoujoNaKo? Wow... We’ve talked, but I didn’t expect you to actually show up! How are you?”

“Good, good. Sorry, who are you?”

“Ah! I’m Canossa”

“Oh! Nice to actually meet you! Haha”

They talked for a few minutes. La Pucelle discussing Cutie Healer and new airing Magical Girl shows that year.

“Do kinda have to warn you. Watch out for Miso Soup.”

“Huh? Miso soup? I can eat miso soup, don’t worry.”

“No, not the food. The user. He’s that one over there. Kind of a pervert, likes to stalk girls, so I’d watch out if I were you.”

“Ah... I see.”

A woman went towards them. She slammed the desk and grinned happily,

“Heyyoooo! Who’s the new girl?”

“Oh, uh, hi! I’m MahouShoujoNaKo!”

“NaKo!? Whoa... I didn’t think you’d actually be *this* pretty! Heyy! I’m Genopsycho!”

“Ah, nice to meet you! Thanks for organizing this week’s gathering.”

“Ah, not a problem, I *love* meeting other fans! So, this is the first outing you’ve joined. What’d you think?”

“I like it. Simple, lots of people to talk with.”

“Cool, right!? But enough about the gathering. Let’s talk about *Magical Girls*! I just got this awesome Magical Daisy autographed fanbook, and it’s *great*!”

“Seriously!? Can I see?”

“Here, check it out! It’s got concept art and everything!”

“Wow... how’d you get it?”

“I uh... know some people in the industry, hehe...”

“Wait... you work in the Anime industry? So, you make Magical Girl Anime too?”

“Nono, not the Anime industry. Er... close to that. I’m in the Manga business.”

“Oh! What Manga?”

“Er... doujins for now, kinda? I mean, I’m breaking in, and I’m definitely getting my work published and stuff, but yeah!”

“You make any Magical Girl stuff?”

“Definitely love to! Wanna see my sketchbook?”

La Pucelle and Genopsycho engaged in this conversation for a long amount of time.

They talked about Magical Girls, their adventures, fan works, and many other things. La Pucelle had always been good online friends with Genopsycho, but meeting her in real life was actually quite nice.

As the day continued, La Pucelle talked with other fans, moving from table to table. This was what he used to do as a kid, and this is what he finally got to do again.

He met a lonely looking girl at a table, sitting alone.

“Hey there, I’m NaKo” said La Pucelle.

“ ... ”

“Uh...”

“ ... ”

The girl tilted her head, and bowed down when La Pucelle introduced himself.

“Mind if I sit here?”

“ ... ”

La Pucelle took a seat, smiling at the girl. She seemed like she wasn’t part of the crowd, so he decided to just befriend her and have a nice chat with her.

“So, what’s your name?”

“ ... ”

“Nice weather we’re having”

“ ... ”

“Magical Girls are pretty cool, huh?”

“ ...Nda”

Something finally came out of the girl’s mouth, as she smiled at La Pucelle.

Afterwards, La Pucelle went over to Genopsycho, asking to see who the girl was.

“Huh? New person? Well... maybe she’s shy! It’s fine as long as she’s having a good time, and pays the participation fee for the food, of course,” said Genopsycho.

Time passed by, and as it grew later into the night, it was time for everyone to head back home. La Pucelle had gotten a special *Cutie Healer* souvenir as well for his participation.

“That was a lot of fun!” said La Pucelle.

“Nice to finally be able to meetcha, NaKo,” said Genopsycho.

“Looking forward to chatting with you again in the boards, Genopsycho!”

“Lots of stuff to talk about, right?”

“Have you seen the new *Cutie Healer* series?”

“Ah, yeah! That just came out a couple weeks ago!”

“Mhmm, can’t wait to see where it goes. Well, see ya!”

“Later!”

La Pucelle walked home, satisfied that his trip went smoothly.

He was able to talk to fellow fans of Magical Girls, as well as meet his online friends in real life. Even though they didn’t know that he was Souta Kishibe, he was still happy that he got to talk to them.

“Scuse me, miss,” said a man’s voice.

La Pucelle turned back.

It was Miso Soup.

“Where you headin’ this late at night?” he said with a sly grin.

“Er... home?”

“Bit dangerous don’t you think? Cute missy like yourself. Why dontcha let me take you back?”

“...No thanks. My train’s on time anyways.”

“You live around Tokyo?”

“Nope.”

“Oh... out of town? Where ya from?”

“...None of your business.”

“Aw, just tryin’ ta help you out.”

“...Appreciate it, but uh... I think I gotta go now.”

“Now let’s not be hasty and get to know ea-”

“HOLD IT RIIIIIGHT THERE, BUDDY!”

A sudden voice from the rooftop shocked both of them.

A girl was posed with a strange costume. A suit that looks like it came from a B-Movie sci-fi flick, and a huge orange visor, as well as an extended cat’s tail.

She jumped down between La Pucelle and Miso Soup.

“Who the hell are you!?” said Miso Soup.

“The *correct question* is who the hell are *you*, mister!?! I don’t think someone as clumsy as you should be out at night like this, dangerous for yourself, y’know!?”

“Who ya callin clumsy, ya bitch!”

“Tsk Tsk Tsk, didn’t your parents ever tell you not to swear in front of others, there are adults here, after all!” said the girl as she slightly glanced at La Pucelle and winked her eyes.

La Pucelle got the signal and made a run for it.

He ran fast, faster than humans could see. Straight for the station.

Unfortunately, he forgot one thing.

He was wearing human clothes.

Magical Girl outfits are built to withstand Magical Girl activities. Human clothes aren't built to withstand the sheer speed that Magical Girls can run.

As La Pucelle ran, parts of his clothing began to tear off. His crochet hat as well. His horns and tail were completely visible.

“AAAAH”

La Pucelle had realized this too late, as he had no clothes on and his armor was at home regardless. Changing back to Souta would just be more embarrassing.



But then.

His horns and tail seemed to disappear, and it looked like he was wearing a sweater and some jeans.

He still felt wind on his skin, and he wasn't actually wearing new clothes, so...

...What was this?

"Huh?"

He looked at his body, which looked like it had clothes painted on them. An illusion of some kind.

A voice from behind him,

"Yuu go home nao, okei? I'll kiip thiz disgaiz on"

That was a strange accent, but La Pucelle questioned who it was, as there was nobody there when he turned around.

The only explanation,

Magical Girls.

Tokyo was a densely populated city, so there must have been *some* Magical Girls as well, he thought.

Either way, he went home, satisfied with his experience in the meeting, and glad that other Magical Girls do exist out there, not just the ones in N-City.

Later that week, a lot of the posters in the board talked about their experiences.

NaKo actually showed up!

Really? Man, I wished I came, then

She's pretty cute in real life, honestly.

NaKo's such a great fan, it's great to finally meet her

Mashiro Kuji laid down on her bed.

It's been a long day for her, but she accomplished what she set out to do.

She stared at the ceiling for a bit, and looked at the brochure for the hotel that she's staying on.

After a while, she checked her Magical Phone, scrolling down to past messages.

Melville,

There's a gathering of Magical Girl fans in Tokyo. It'll be held nearby. Would you mind stopping by there and infiltrating it?

Most Magical Girl fans have amazing Magical Potential, and maybe are Magical Girls themselves. I'd like you to scout for potential people if you can. Would that be alright?

I know you can do it! Good luck, fight hard.

Clamberry

She turned off her Magical Phone.

Mashiro Kuji was the Magical Girl, Melville.

She couldn't exactly talk to anyone during the meeting, due to her speech condition and accent, so she decided to just observe.

But he recognized that boy, La Pucelle. He was a participant in Clamberry's tests. He wasn't sure what to do when he came up to her and started talking.

Afterwards, she followed him back, and when he was being harassed, she had planned to attack the harasser, but Genopsycho had already saved him.

Then, La Pucelle had an incident. If he got into trouble in Tokyo, Clamberry's tests wouldn't be able to proceed, so Melville helped him.

She helped Clamerry proceed with her tests.

Maybe that means Clamerry would find her useful... maybe.

Maybe that means that Clamerry cared for her, too.

Melville sighed. Hopefully the test in N-City goes well.

She turned off the lights and went to sleep.